

(a) contacting mRNA obtained from a cell with a labeled hybridization probe comprising [all or part of] an open reading frame encoding a protein of SEQ ID No. 7; and

(b) detecting hybridization of said probe with said mRNA.

REMARKS

The 35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 11 has been amended to recite a method of detecting TADG-14 mRNA expression using a hybridization probe comprising an open reading frame encoding a protein of SEQ ID No. 7. Such amendment is fully supported by the instant application (see Specification, page 3, lines 6-10; Example 6; and Example 9). Therefore, claim 11 is now definite. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Double Patenting Rejection

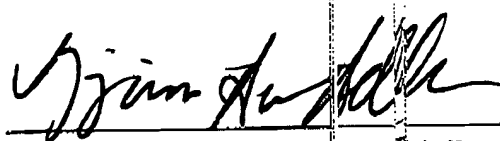
Claims 1, 4-8 and 11 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8 and 11 of copending Application No. 09/137,944. This rejection is traversed.

Applicants hereby submit a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c). Applicants respectfully request that this provisional rejection be withdrawn.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Final Office Action mailed February 4, 2000. If any issues remain, please telephone the attorney of record for immediate resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

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